

Date: Sun, 31 Oct 93 17:34:00 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1296
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sun, 31 Oct 93 Volume 93 : Issue 1296

Today's Topics:

 "Vanity" Call Signs
 All Azden HT Owners (2 msgs)
 ANS-303 BULLETINS
 Antenna Rotators Question
 Daily Solar Geophysical Data Broadcast for 30 October
 linked repeaters question
 Q codes (2 msgs)
 Rebuild NiCd battery for HT
 Request for Newsline #844
simpstr20.zip - Hams:SimpleTerm generic TNC/TU interface com pgm
 TH-78A (was Questions regarding CTCSS, DTMF ???)
 Windows Software for Code Practice

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 31 Oct 93 22:16:53 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: "Vanity" Call Signs
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>

>Once upon a time, for a short period, extras (?) could get specific
>calls by request. For example, locally a guy known as OJ is K00J.

>

That "once upon a time" was 76 and part of 77.

Check out K0PP whose last name is KOPP..

Date: 31 Oct 1993 16:15:48 -0500
From: swrinde!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!yeshua.marcam.com!zip.eecs.umich.edu!caen!
nic.umass.edu!noc.near.net!news.delphi.com!news.delphi.com!not-for-
mail@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: All Azden HT Owners
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I bought an Azden AZ-61 6m HT last year, and found it generally OK,
with a couple exceptions, such as...

No schematic included (got one from the NY office, tho)
Only 2m manual available (bad for a radio with relatively complicated
interface)
Occassional need for hard reset to clear CPU problems (goodbye memories)
Unit cannot receive while usinng up/down buttons (rx PLL not fast enough)

On the other hand, it is really great to have a 6m HT -- they're too
rare, aren't they?!

Steve WD8DAS STEVEBJ@delphi.com

Date: 31 Oct 93 22:47:00 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!
news.delphi.com!usenet@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: All Azden HT Owners
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Steve, a review of the new Azden 6 meter HT claims it won't do
"odd" repeater splits. (In the current 73 magazine.) I was
thinking about buying one, but changed my mind, as many 6 meter
repeaters have odd splits.

Have you found a way with yours to enter an odd split? --Leigh/KM6JE.

Date: 31 Oct 93 22:36:35 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: ANS-303 BULLETINS
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SB SAT @ AMSAT \$ANS-303.01
STS-58 SAREX MISSION ENDS

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 303.01 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD OCTOBER 30, 1993
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT
BID: \$ANS-303.01

STS-58 Astronauts Breaks All SAREX Records

Now that the Space Shuttle Columbia Astronauts have packed away the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) gear, it can be said that this SAREX flight was one of the most successful performed to date. All facets of this SAREX flight were performed superbly. This was a testament of the outstanding support and preparation by the Astronauts on-orbit and the SAREX team on the ground. For the DX chaser, this mission will probably be remembered for the special effort that was made on the part of the astronauts to make as many general voice QSO contacts as their busy schedule would allow. The astronauts were available on voice for all the "scheduled" general QSO opportunities and many additional passes. Estimates of the number of voice contacts are difficult without hearing the tape logs but are probably in the high hundreds. With respect to packet QSOs, well over 800 at this time is a good estimate. Until the SAREX logs have been completely examined, these are only preliminary estimates.

One important facet of SAREX is school group contacts. This mission shined from a school group success standpoint. Of the 17 school groups and 8 personal contacts planned, only 2 school group and 1 personal contacts had to be repeated. The probability of a successful school contact on the first attempt was nearly 90% for this mission. During previous missions, our success rate was between 66-75%. Also, the majority of the schools had horizon to horizon contacts and many schools had 10 or more questions answered. Hundreds of school children were thrilled by the experience of talking directly with the STS-58 astronauts and asking questions about various aspects of space flight. Many thousand more were also able to listen into the conversation. On 21-OCT-93, the Lycee Gaston Febus school in Pau, France had a telebridge contact with the astronauts. Jean-Marc Dumont, the French school coordinator reports that over 10,000 students throughout France listened to the contact through a national repeater link. The SAREX Working Group wishes to thank the school group volunteers for their outstanding efforts, the ARRL for their educational lesson plans and education support, the AMSAT technical mentors who coached the schools prior to the contact, and those who helped in the Mission Control Customer Support room; particularly John Nickel (WD5EEV), and Karen Nickel (WD5EEU).

If you heard or worked the STS-58 station of KC5ACR or W5RRR-1 and you would like to receive a QSL card, then please send your QSL card to the following address: ARRL, STS-58 QSL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT, 06111.

Please allow for up to 6-10 months for the STS-58 SAREX Mission QSL card to be mailed. Please include with your QSL card all the specific QSO information such as, date, time, mode, frequency, etc. Also, and most importantly, if you wish to receive a QSL card confirming a contact, YOU MUST INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESS-STAMPED-ENVELOPE (SASE) WITH PROPER POSTAGE! If you do not include a SASE, you will not receive a QSL card.

A great deal of recognition should be given to the hard work done by the SAREX Working Group which listened to the feedback from radio amateurs from previous SAREX missions and worked very hard improve operations. Also, a big "thanks" is due to the astronauts aboard STS-58; particularly Bill McArthur (KC5ACR), Marty Fettman (KC5AXA), and Rick Searfoss, (KC5CKM).

In the upcoming weeks as the SAREX logs are analyzed by the SAREX Team, the AMSAT News Service (ANS) bulletins will publish final STS-58 operational statistics.

[The AMSAT News Service (ANS) would like to thank Frank Bauer (KA3HDO) for the information which went into this bulletin item.]

/EX

SB SAT @ AMSAT \$ANS-303.02

AMSAT OPS NET SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 303.02 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD OCTOBER 30, 1993
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT
BID: \$ANS-303.02

Current AMSAT Operations Net Schedule For AO-13

AMSAT Operations Nets are planned for the following times. Mode-B Nets are conducted on AO-13 on a downlink frequency of 145.950 MHz. If, at the start of the OPS Net, the frequency of 145.950 MHz is being used for a QSO, OPS Net enthusiasts are asked to move to the alternate frequency of 145.955 MHz.

Date	UTC	Mode	Phs	NCS	Alt NCS
13-Nov-93	1230	B	146	VE2LVC	W5IU
28-Nov-93	0230	B	39	WJ9F	VE2LVC
12-Dec-93	0435	B	180	W9ODI	WB6LLO

Any stations with information on current events would be most welcomed. Also, those interested in discussing technical issues or who have questions about any particular aspect of OSCAR statellite operations, are encouraged to join the OPS Nets. In the unlikely event that either the Net Control Station (NCS) or the alternate do not call on frequency, any participant is

invited to act as the NCS.

Slow Scan Television on AO-13

SSTV sessions will be held on immediately after the OPS Nets a downlink on a Mode-B downlink frequency 145.960 MHz.

/EX

SB SAT @ AMSAT \$ANS-303.03

WEEKLY OSCAR STATUS REPORTS

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 303.03 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD OCTOBER 30, 1993
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT
BID: \$ANS-303.03

Weekly OSCAR Status Reports: 23-OCT-93

AO-13: Current Transponder Operating Schedule:

M QST *** AO-13 TRANSPONDER SCHEDULE *** 1993 Oct 25-Nov 15

Mode-B : MA 0 to MA 130 !

Mode-BS : MA 130 to MA 180 !

Mode-S : MA 180 to MA 205 !<- S transponder; B trsp. is OFF

Mode-S : MA 205 to MA 210 !<- S beacon only

Mode-BS : MA 210 to MA 226 ! Blon/Blat 210/0

Omnis : MA 240 to MA 80 ! Move to attitude 240/0, Nov 15

Please don't uplink to Mode-B between MA 180-205 as this interferes with Mode-S transponder operations. Continuous up-to-date information about AO-13 operations is always avail-able on the beacons at 145.812 MHz and 2400.646 MHz in CW, RTTY and 400 bps PSK. Also, these bulletins are also posted to INTERNET, ANS bulletins, Packet, PACSATs, as well as many international newsletters. [G3RUH/DB20S/VK5AGR]

AO-16: Operating normally. [WH6I]

UO-22: Operating normally. [WH6I]

LO-19: Operating normally. [WH6I]

KO-23: Up and running. Busy as usual. [WH6I]

KO-25: File system is up and running but not open for uploads. [WH6I]

IO-26: Up and running with a lot of activity. [WH6I]

NOTE: All of the above digital "birds" are now using the new suite of

programs. They all broadcast both directories and files. PB920430 works with all of them. [WH6I]

AO-10: SM0MRJ reports that last week downlink signals are quite strong from AO-10 but there are almost no users taking advantage of this OSCAR. [SM0MRJ]

The AMSAT NEWS Service (ANS) is looking for volunteers to contribute weekly OSCAR status reports. If you have a favorite OSCAR which you work on a regular basis and would like to contribute to this bulletin, please send your observations to WD0HHU at his CompuServe address of 70524,2272, on INTERNET at wd0hhu@amsat.org, or to his local packet BBS in the Denver, CO area, WD0HHU @ W0LJF.#NECO.CO.USA.NOAM. Also, if you find that the current set of orbital elements are not generating the correct AOS/LOS times at your QTH, PLEASE INCLUDE THAT INFORMATION AS WELL. The information you provide will be of value to all OSCAR enthusiasts.

/EX

Date: Sun, 31 Oct 1993 16:45:48 GMT
From: raven.alaska.edu!acad2.alaska.edu!auchd@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Antenna Rotators Question
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Does anybody know of any antenna rotators that work off signals sent through the coax. I'm thinkin about installing a YAGI. However, my 5/8 " feedhole into my house is maxed out with an 8 gauge ground wire and RG-8X. Maybe the strongarm antenna rotator??

WLZNO

Date: 31 Oct 93 22:38:18 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Daily Solar Geophysical Data Broadcast for 30 October
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

!!BEGIN!! (1.0) S.T.D. Solar Geophysical Data Broadcast for DAY 303, 10/30/93
10.7 FLUX=090.7 90-AVG=094 SSN=032 BKI=2100 0101 BAI=002
BGND-XRAY=B1.5 FLU1=1.7E+05 FLU10=1.0E+04 PKI=2121 2122 PAI=005
BOU-DEV=013,005,004,004,004,008,004,007 DEV-AVG=006 NT SWF=00:000
XRAY-MAX= C1.1 @ 0114UT XRAY-MIN= B1.3 @ 2212UT XRAY-AVG= B2.9
NEUTN-MAX= +002% @ 2335UT NEUTN-MIN= -002% @ 1805UT NEUTN-AVG= +0.1%
PCA-MAX= +0.0DB @ 2045UT PCA-MIN= -0.8DB @ 2255UT PCA-AVG= -0.1DB
BOUTF-MAX=55363NT @ 2338UT BOUTF-MIN=55344NT @ 1820UT BOUTF-AVG=55356NT

GOES7-MAX=P:+000NT@ 0000UT GOES7-MIN=N:+000NT@ 0000UT G7-AVG=+066,+000,+000
GOES6-MAX=P:+105NT@ 2002UT GOES6-MIN=N:-065NT@ 1139UT G6-AVG=+087,+017,-038
FLUXFCST=STD:091,090,090;SESC:091,090,090 BAI/PAI-FCST=006,006,008/010,010,010
KFCST=2233 3222 2223 3322 27DAY-AP=006,006 27DAY-KP=1222 1223 1112 3222
WARNINGS=
ALERTS=
!!END-DATA!!

NOTE: The Effective Sunspot Number for 29 OCT 93 is not available.
The Full Kp Indices for 29 OCT 93 are not available.

Date: 31 Oct 1993 17:33:09 GMT
From: swrinde!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!yeshua.marcam.com!news.kei.com!news.byu.edu!
news.mtholyoke.edu!news.unomaha.edu!crcnis1.unl.edu!unlinfo.unl.edu!
mcduffie@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: linked repeaters question
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

n-dade@uxa.cso.uiuc.edu () writes:

>We here have a question about linking ATV repeaters together.
>(actually it will happen with any repeaters---ATV is not required)

>When the first repeater stops transmitting the "user's" signal,
>it will transmit its ID picture for a few seconds and then go
>off the air. The second repeater will then transmits its ID picture
>and go off the air. However the first repeater could be reopened
>up by the second repeater's ID picture transmission, and so on,
>creating a loop where each repeater's sign off is retransmitted
>by the other, which then signs off itself, etc... .

>In California they seem to have this problem licked. How do they
>do it?

Easy... linked repeaters don't hear each other's output. They only
hear each other's link channels. The ID appearing on the 2nd rptry's
output would never be seen by the first one.

Again... linked repeaters usually don't listen to each other. They are
linked on separate frequencies/bands.

73,
Gary McDuffie, Sr. // ---o-----\./-----o---
Scottsbluff, Nebraska \\ // mcduffie@unl.edu ---o----/|\-----o---
AGON@AGON.#WNE.NE.USA.NA \X/ -----|

The Q codes are listed in the ARRL Handbook as well as in many license study guides!

Message written at 2:35pm, on Friday, October 29, 1993.

* Apex v4 * Help stamp out and abolish redundancy!
* mario.campos@nitelog.com - N6ALS@K6LY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
* [R2.00o] * Usenet * Nitelog BBS * Monterey CA * 408-655-1096

Date: 31 Oct 1993 16:20:09 -0500
From: swrinde!emory!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!news.delphi.com!news.delphi.com!not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Rebuild NiCd battery for HT
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

jjook@fraser.sfu.ca (Jessica Jook) writes:

>Hi:

>Does any one has experience to rebuild the NiCd battery pack for
>hand held radio. I would like to make one. Can someone tell me
>where they can buy good NiCd battery cells and what kind of epoxy
>to seal the battery pack. Also, any special things you want to
>remind me, please do so.

>Thanks

>Dominic
>VE7VOC

Dominic:

Check suppliers for the same type of cells as in your pack (AA,N,1/2AA, whatever) in the same AH (ampere-hour) capacity. Get the ones with solder-tabs for ease of interconnection. Dont overlook Radio Shack for possible replacement Nicds -- they carry cordles telephone packs that can sometimes be added together for our purposes (example ICOM BP3 can be rebuilt using Radio Shack 3 and 4-cell cordelss packs -- works slick).

Steve WD8DAS STEVEBJ@delphi.com

Date: 31 Oct 1993 10:20:33 -0800
From: gatekeeper.us.oracle.com!barrnet.net!nntp.crl.com!tcomeng.tcomeng.com!not-

for-mail@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Request for Newsline #844
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm a little late in hearing about the proposal for the "vanity" callsigns as mentioned in the last issue of Newsline (#844?). Could some nice person email me a copy of that issue, or anything else they think might be enlightening on this subject?

Thanx and 73's
KM6UL

Date: Sun, 31 Oct 1993 18:28:18 GMT
From: swrinde!sdd.hp.com!spool.mu.edu!nigel.msen.com!simtel.coast.net!msdos-ann-request@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: simptr20.zip - Hams:SimpTerm generic TNC/TU interface com pgm
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have uploaded to the SimTel Software Repository (available by anonymous ftp from the primary mirror site OAK.Oakland.Edu and its mirrors):

pub/msdos/hamradio/
simptr20.zip Hams:SimpTerm generic TNC/TU interface com pgm

SimpTerm is a simple terminal program designed to be used with almost any TNC or TU on the market. Features of SimpTerm are:

- o Runs under DOS.
- o Split window operation.
- o Macro key definitions.
- o User customizable Help screen
- o Most of the non-ascii keys can be used as function keys
- o Optional scroll back feature on the receive window and transmit windows
- o Simple status display in the middle of the screen
- o Capturing of data to a disk file
- o Access DOS commands without dropping communications connection
- o Control of the com port definitions from command line, init file and keyboard.
- o Works on 8088 as well as 80486 and everything in-between.
- o Status line
- o Small enough to work well on resource tight platforms, like laptops.
- o Selcal functions, limited unattended operation.
- o Times can be in GMT or local time.
- o A station logging function.

- o User selectable color scheme
- o Function keys and control keys can be assigned to a macro string, cause a file to be uploaded or call a function within the program.

Uploaded by the author.

73,
Jim.

- -

Jim Lynch, Sales Analyst, Cray Research, Inc. / ARS: K4GVO
Southeast District, Phone: (404) 631-2254, Email: jwl@sedist.cray.com
Suite 270, 200 Westpark Drive, Peachtree City, GA 30269

Date: 31 Oct 93 20:44:07 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: TH-78A (was Questions regarding CTCSS, DTMF ???)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <romanenkod@agcs.com> (Dan Romanenko) writes:

>In article <millerpe.2.00100588@spot.colorado.edu> millerpe@spot.colorado.edu
>(Peter M. Miller) writes:

>>I am new to Ham Radio and I am looking to buy my first HT.

>I too am in the same boat (so to speak) - just passed for my No-Code Tech
>approximately two weeks ago! (Obflamebait: Will I go for code? [*])

>>Right now I seem to like the Kenwood TH-78A.

>Stopped by HRO - Kenwood seems to be the only one to have literature to
>hand out at the store (why?)... so most of my questions will be based on
>the Kenwood, and paging through the HRO catalog. Side note: Interesting
>how "first impressions" (good or bad) are made regarding how much
>information can be found about a unit.

>>What is CTCSS? I see ads saying the unit has CTCSS encode/decode options.
>>What is DTMS squelch and DTMF paging?

I think this was covered recently by other posts. I use CTCSS tone constantly. In a metro area, it cuts off the intermod noise. Not all repeaters transmit CTCSS tone, but I take advantage of it when I can.

>I understand the crossband repeat terms, but what does "full duplex
>cross band operation" mean?

>I'll take a stab at it (tell me how far off I am :) This allows the
>HT to receive a signal on 14x and re-transmit it on 44x, and any
>signal received on 44x be re-transmitted on 14x.

That's right.

>Another question: This unit can operate with two frequencies in the same
>band (e.g. UHF + VHF, VHF + VHF, and UHF + UHF). How important / useful
>is this? Although not mentioned, can the unit do an in-band (correct
>terminology?) repeat?

The 78A can not do an in-band repeat. The FT530 "can" but it is deaf as a post in that mode, so why bother. The same band operation has been very useful to me. I often monitor public service frequencies in the 460 range while on a net on 440. I also operate simplex on one side of the radio and a repeater on the other side, on the same band. The redundancy of same band operation on both sides is also handy, since I have lost one side of the radio at times. (see below).

>In the VHF freqs. it lists the RX as 118 - 173.9995 Mhz, TX 144 - 147.9995
>Mhz. What can you hear in the 118 - 144 and 148 - 173 Mhz ranges?

Aircraft (AM operation) and public service.

>Memory Expansion? Worth it? (You go from 50 memories to 250. 5x increase.)
>Typically, how many memories do people use on their HTs?

YES! The memory expansion is relatively cheap, and if you use the alpha-numeric display capability, the memory is re-mapped and you only get half as many slots. I have repeater and public service frequencies for the areas I routinely travel through loaded in memory. It is far more convenient than plugging numbers into the VFO all the time. Also I use an odd split on the public service frequencies so I do not inadvertently transmit on those frequencies. That can not be done in VFO, odd splits require use of a memory slot.

>Yes... more questions: When purchasing an HT, do you typically buy
>additional battery packs? (I'm assuming this would be a yes. :)
>If so, what types? High power, Long life? A mix? Why?

Yes, you should buy an additional battery pack. I bought a high power pack and an alkaline pack (so in a pinch I can recharge at K-mart, 7-11 etc.) An additional low power pack fell into my lap since then. I use the two low power packs most often, but I am also operating repeaters in a metro area, or on external DC in the car most times.

>If I get a lighter cord, will the batteries recharge while the HT is
>plugged in? Or, do they charge only when in the recharger?

Same jack, the battery will charge on the DC cord (low power battery) the
high power battery has a separate jack in the back that works the same
way.

>How well do the HTs stand up to abuse? (e.g. being dropped, shaken,
>rattled, accidentally getting wet)

The 78A WILL lose C-17 on the control board if dropped, period. This
causes loss on receive audio on the left-hand side of the radio. The
solder pads for that cap are not big enough. If you find the need to
replace C-17, use a gap-fill cyanoacrylate glue like Zap-A-Gap (tm)
to increase the device footprint. I have learned the hard way.
Otherwise, I have found it to be a fine radio. My only problems have
been related to the C-17 issue and attempts to rectify it. Had I
been given the above advice, it would have been a one-time only
issue. As it is, I took out one of the microprocessors yesterday
looking for a bad solder joint that was induced by my attempt to
solve the C-17 problem (sigh). This radio gets a lot of use and
a lot of travel. C-17 is the only thing that I have broken with
the case closed. :-)

Note that I have found Kenwood service to be great, and I am very
happy with the radio. I just want to make the one weak spot, and
the fix, known.

[More stuff deleted]

Wm. A. Kirsanoff Internet: WAKIRSAN@ananov.remnet.ab.com
Rockwell International Ham: KD6MCI
(714) 762-2872
Alternate Internet: william_a._kirsanoff@ccmail.anatcp.rockwell.com

Who are you? * I am number 2. * Who is number 1? * You are number 6.

Date: Fri, 29 Oct 1993 18:54:04 GMT
From: swrinde!emory!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!library.ucla.edu!agate!boulder!cnsnews!
spot.Colorado.EDU!millerpe@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Windows Software for Code Practice
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Does anyone know where I can find windows software for
code practice?

thanx

millerpe@spot.colorado.edu

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=====
Peter M. Miller                               Home: 303-494-6990
Computing and Network Services - Small Systems   Work: 303-492-4866
University of Colorado - Boulder                millerpe@spot.colorado.edu
=====
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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1296

